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MS AF 6-28-04  
REPLY UNDER  
37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2613  
P.C.

# RECEIVED

JUN 24 2004

Technology Center 2600

PATENT  
0033-0630P

## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shuichi WATANABE Conf.: 8589  
Appl. No.: 09/451,097 Group: 2613  
Filed: November 30, 1999 Examiner: Lee, Richard J.  
For: IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS PERFORMING  
RETRIEVAL BASED ON CODING INFORMATION  
UTILIZED FOR FEATURED FRAME EXTRACTION  
OR FEATURE VALUES OF FRAMES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING A  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND REQUEST FOR  
INTERVIEW PRIOR TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 17, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated February 17, 2004, the period for response being extended one month per the attached Petition, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes Claim Amendments; Remarks; and a Request for an Interview Prior to a First Office Action.